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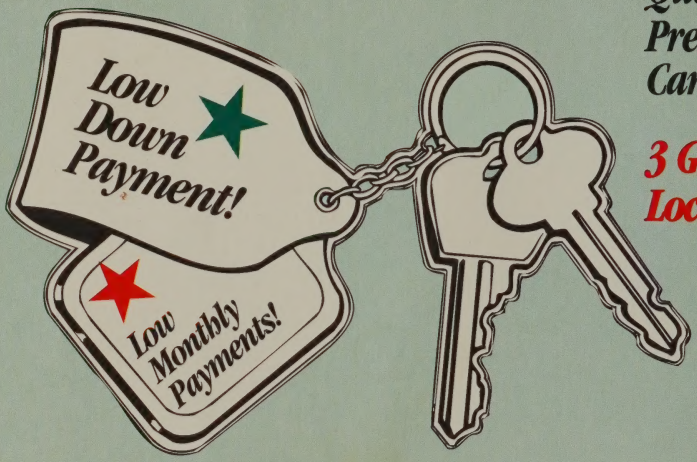

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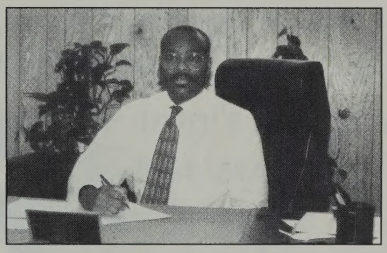
MISSISSIPPI Star

VOL. 1, NO. 2 OCTOBER 1996

Contents

DEPARTMENTS

5 PUBLISHER'S PAGE
7 INSIGHT: "ROOFIE" ALERT
9 REVIEW: A TIME TO KILL
18 SOMETHING TO PRAY ABOUT
22 FASHION
24 OUTSIDE WORD
29 NEWS BRIEFS
30 EVENTS CALENDAR



10 Dr. Philip Terrell on Education

16 Mississippi Star Celebration

FEATURES

10 DR. PHILIP TERRELL EDUCATION GIANT
13 ROLE OF THE COMMUNITY IN EDUCATION
16 MISSISSIPPI STAR'S PREMIERE CELEBRATION
20 SHANI DANCERS: LAST DANCE?
25 SMYERS TWINS: A DYNAMIC DUO
26 MCCARTY SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

26 Students grateful for scholarships

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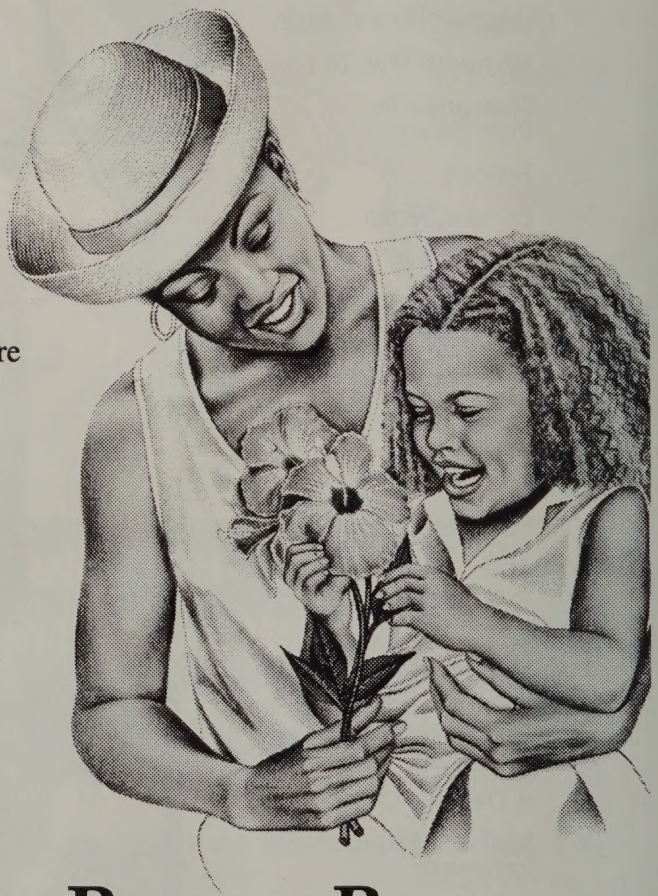

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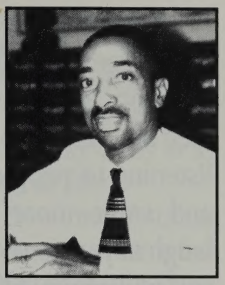

Maurice E. Singleton, Jr.

***Education is still the key,** but the real issue is self-development. The Army's slogan says, "Be all that you can be." I echo that, however, I say, be as much of what you can be before the Army if that's the direction you choose.*

PUBLISHER'S PAGE

Not long ago, I was involved in a discussion concerning the lack of career placement opportunities available to African-American college graduates. The person I spoke with argued that the "good old boy network", fraternity and sorority connections and country club connections among other things, including media conspiracies designed to sabotage "affirmative action", placed white applicants in a position of unsurmountable advantage.

Now I must admit that I agreed with him, in part that the playing field was not necessarily level, and certainly the national media had never seriously challenged the "reverse discrimination" myth. However, I disagreed that the situation was hopeless.

You see, I regard self-development as the primary issue. Certainly, we don't get everything we want when we want it. Sometimes we have to make sacrifices on top of sacrifices. There are many examples of career successes which began at the end of a checkout line of a grocery store or on the front line at McDonald's. Sometimes you have to go all the way around the block before you can cross the street. However, you can't hold a good person down for long; the cream tends to rise to the top. [CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE]

I say be the best you can be. Go to college. Learn to enjoy people for who they are instead of what they are. Learn to enjoy talking and listening to people. Learn to laugh and smile more often. Learn to laugh at your own mistakes because you will make some if you achieve anything. Practice speaking in front of groups. Improve your writing skills. Become a person whose word is as good as a guarantee. Learn to save money.

Set goals, have something at which to shoot, because he who aims at nothing can hit it every time. Develop a plan to start your own business. Learn to reward yourself. Develop a firm handshake.

Develop a "David Mentality" and overcome the "Goliaths" you face from day to day.

Don't worry that you may work twice as hard as the next person; accept this as the way of life of a true winner. Trust me, the right people will sooner or later take note. Call it a game if you like, but the ball's in your court. Focus your energies on your development. Aspire to do something great! Be the best that you can be. ★

MISSISSIPPI Star

MAURICE E. SINGLETON, JR.
Publisher

Contributing Writers
STACY JAMES MACKEY
CHARLOTTE PHINISEE
BOBBIE HAYS

ALLEN D. JENKINS
Art Director

MAURICE E. SINGLETON, JR.
Advertising

VONRETTA SINGLETON
Business Manager

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ROOFIES:

INCREASING THE RISK OF THE NIGHT CLUB DRINK

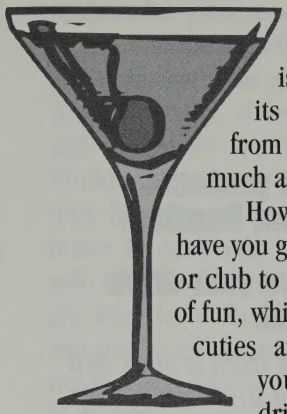
By Charlotte Phinisee

As you read the title of this article, you probably thought that I was going to attack social drinking or perhaps quote a few alcohol consumption statistics. Well, that is not my intention. Instead, my goal is to impress upon you how drinking a cocktail can pose a threat to your health or your life if someone slips a "roofie" in your drink.

INSIGHT

Roofie is the street name for *rohypnol* (ro-hip-nol), a colorless, odorless drug that can dissolve in a beverage without detection. Within ten minutes after consumption, its victims experience a drunk-like effect that lasts - Are you ready for this? - up to ten hours. It causes a loss of inhibition, sleepiness, relaxation, and in extreme cases, amnesia.

Roofies are causing alarm for college students, parents, drug enforcement officers and unsuspecting nightclub patrons out for a



moment of fun. Its threat is increased by its cost, ranging from fifty cents to as much as $8.

How many times have you gone out to a bar or club to have your share of fun, while eyeing all the cuties and sipping on your favorite drink. Now think back to the times you actually left your drink while you partied on the dance floor. If this scenario sounds familiar, you should consider making some changes.

More and more cases of rape due to roofies have been reported. A Florida man recently pleaded guilty to raping as many as forty women with the use of this drug. According to the Drug Enforcement Agency, most *rohypnol*-related rape cases have been reported in Florida and states closest to the Mexican border. *Rohypnol* is legal in some South American countries and Europe.

According to Special Agent Chris Loposser of the Gulfport Police Department, there have been no reports of *rohypnol* use in the Gulfport area. However, this is no reason for us not to be alert. With gaming, the Coast has become such a transient area; people come from all over in search of fun and recreation. The likelihood of this drug finding its way here is great.

Are you alarmed? Well, you should be. As a single woman, I am alarmed. However, now I am also

armed with the necessary information to protect myself against the threat of this drug and the criminal mind that would abuse it. ★

Tips to help protect yourself from Roofies:

1. Don't leave your drink unattended.

Never drink from a glass that has been left unattended for any amount of time.

2. Education is the key.

Parents, be sure to talk to your children about the dangers of this drug and its potential harm.

3. Look out for each other.

The "buddy system" still remains as effective as the designated driver. A caring friend will likely raise an eyebrow to uncanny actions.

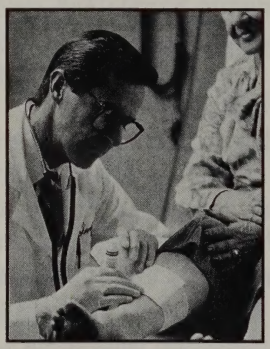
4. Don't drink with strangers.

When mixing socially, never accept a pre-prepared drink from a stranger

5. Report abuse.

If you or anyone you know are aware of the existence of this drug in your community, contact the police department immediately.

A New Era in Woundcare Treatment



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A Time To Kill

By Maurice E. Singleton, Jr.

MOVIE REVIEW

"What would you have done?" is the question Carl Lee Hailey poses to his attorney after he takes the law into his own hands and guns down the two racist thugs who brutally assaulted and raped his nine-year-old daughter. This same question captures and holds the attention of audiences and the jurors who are charged with determining Hailey's fate.

Looks like Samuel L. Jackson is headed for a Best Supporting Actor nomination in his role as Carl Lee in the film adaptation of John Grisham's first novel, *A Time To Kill*. Jackson and Grisham combine effectively to bring respect and dignity to a character Hollywood has long ignored - the hard-working African-American man who heads his family and strives and struggles to gain his crumbling slice of the American pie.

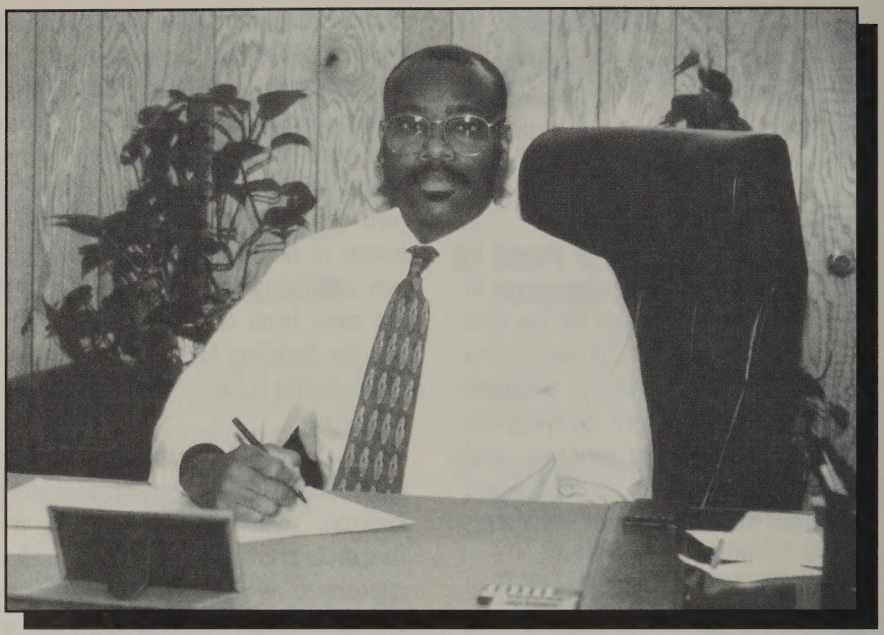
Through Jackson and newcomer, Matthew McConaughey, director Joel Schumacher superbly demonstrates the similarities of two men from totally different worlds confronted with opposite ends of the same situation. McConaughey plays Jake Brigance, Hailey's young, inexperienced attorney who handles the unenviable task of defending him in the racially-divided town of Canton, Mississippi.

Brigance, also the father of a young daughter, is forced to ponder and deal with the question, "What would you have done?" In fact, as his own life appears to crumble - his house is destroyed by the Klan; his wife and daughter move to Gulfport to get away from the threat of danger; and his fledgling law practice continues to barely survive - Brigance begins to give up.

In what is probably the second most compelling scene in the film, Jackson, visited in his jail cell by Brigance, convinces his attorney who appears to be defeated, that they can win because they have to win. Like a quarterback in the huddle with his team down by a field goal with less than a minute remaining, Hailey prepares Brigance for the big play.

What is probably the most compelling piece of acting in the film, Brigance delivers the memorable summation through which he places the jurors in Hailey's shoes. Before he is finished, the jurors are in tears; the audience is in tears; and Hailey is acquitted.

A major misrepresentation in the film is the NAACP being depicted as media manipulators and money-seeking opportunists. It appears that the director or writers may have been seeking balance for their portrayal of the Ku Klux Klan as a group of ignorant, racist thugs manipulated by an event and a charismatic leader. This is unfortunate for what is otherwise a very good movie. ★



Dr. Philip Terrell, Ph.D.

CHEERLEADER for CHILDREN

By Maurice E. Singleton, Jr.

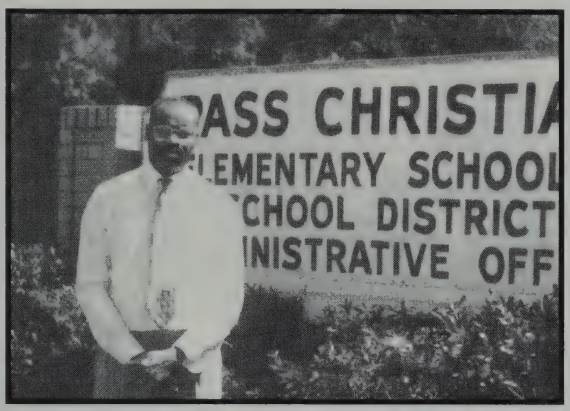
As the beginning of a new school year gets underway, Dr. Philip Terrell has been busy interviewing and hiring teachers and making sure that Pass Christian's public schools are prepared to maintain and possibly improve on its 3.8 accreditation level. Translated, this means that based on the Iowa Test of Basic Skills and the Functional Literacy Exam, Pass Christian ranks in the top 20 percent of schools in the state.

"We have good schools. We have a good school district," the superintendent quickly pointed out. "We have taken a very progressive approach, and we've aggressively recruited the best faculty and staff for the boys and girls in our district."

Clementine Williams, principal of Delisle Elementary School, confirms

Terrell's commitment to children. "He is a highly intelligent, child-centered young man. He is truly dedicated to serve the boys and girls of Pass Christian Public Schools with enthusiasm, motivation and innovativeness.

"He gives his very best everyday and expects no less from his administrators and teachers. His high expectations and energy are traits that automatically turn his faculties and staffs into motivators for children," Williams added.



Superintendent Terrell outside Administrative Building in Pass Christian

"I would like to think I've had some success as a district school superintendent," said Terrell before he redirected the focus to the task and away from himself. "You have to have a quality product. It's exciting being a cheerleader to help those 200 employees work as a group to provide a quality education for the children."

Terrell credits programs such as Reading Recovery and Project Read as two of the innovative programs which has helped to make a difference in the district. According to Terrell, both programs have very good track records for improving the reading skills of students.

It is obvious that Terrell is extremely proud of the Pass Christian Public School District's performance on national tests as well as the fact that many graduates go on to college. In fact, through a relatively new program, many seniors enroll in college courses while attending Pass Christian High School. Last year approximately 55 students earned college-level credit in French and Western Civilization through an arrangement with Gulf Coast Community College in which classes are offered in the evening on the high school's campus.

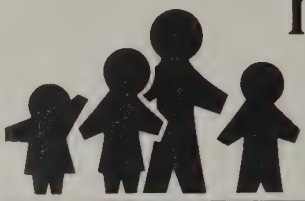
"This helps the students get a sample of what college is all about," Terrell explained. "These are regular college classes, and the students actually earn college credit."

Dr. Terrell's success in Pass Christian is not a surprise to anyone. You see, Dr. Terrell came very highly recommended. His appointment to superintendent in Pass Christian followed very successful principalships at Gulfport High School, West Elementary School in Gulfport and Charles B. Murphy in Pearlington.

Terrell is quick to point out that the foundation for success at Pass Christian was already in place when he started at Pass Christian. "I inherited a school district from a very effective superintendent in Leroy Lizana."

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 30]

"Confused about life insurance? Rely on me to help you make the right choices."



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The Role of Our Community in A Child's Education

Ethel Gladney drops off her 4th-Grader, Whitney, Age 9, at Bay Middle School in Bay St. Louis.

By Bobbie Hays

What are the roles of parents, teachers, principals, and superintendent in the development of a child to reach full potential?

The roles of parents, teachers, principals and superintendent in the development of a child to reach full potential will certainly vary from child to child. However, as we spoke with parents and those in the field of education, we learned that the key focus must be on the needs of children collectively.

Dr. James Easton, Superintendent of Schools in the Moss Point district, said his role is one of a "facilitator/coordinator, one who takes responsibility for establishing a team that regards itself as an advocate or champion for children."

Ms. Sharon Thompson who works in the Moss Point System as Director of School and Family Partnership, affirmed, "Our goal is to model behavior that we want the children to have. When a child observes his/her parents reading, it encourages the child to read." Thompson added, "Our school system is working to get necessary services provided to stu-

dents and parents to assist in making the student successful. Many of these services will be provided through community - based organizations, such as 'he Moss Point Partners in Education (MPPIE) and the Navy Base and USS Miller which will institute tutorial programs during the day for students."

Moss Point Partners In Education Advisory Committee representatives (l to r) Paul Johnson, Jr., Sharon Thompson, Francis Bearry, and Loretta Jennings

One Gulfport parent, Mr. Cedric Daniels, said that the parent's role is one of a positive motivating force to encourage the child. The parents should keep the child excited about achieving goals. The child should, however, be candidly warned about adversities and difficulties they will face in achieving. Parents should live as an example before the child and increase his self discipline by giving frequent guidance. "Spending quality time together engaging in fun activities help to solidify your relationship. Do not by any means expect the child to be a robot or an adult," Daniels added. Daniels and his wife, Audrey, are the parents of two sons, Akil, 12, and Jahi, 9.

Mr. Nate Fairconnetue, in his comment on the principal's role said that his role is to be available for the child and to keep him on the right track. He stressed the necessity of keeping in touch with parents whenever there is a problem as well as informing the parents of positive things the child does.

Ms. Lettie Haynes, Assistant Principal at Pass Christian Elementary stated, "The educational leader sets the stage for instruction by common commitment to the staff and the student, realizing that motivating students is the toughest part of teaching. I see myself as 'the motivator of motivators' and model behavior consistent with positive reinforcement. As the role model for the staff, an effective educational leader strives to impress on the staff members that the students must always remain the focus of their attention." Ms. Haynes went on to say that the more involvement an administration has with instruction, the stronger the school's overall program.

"Instruction," notes Haynes, "stands out as the central responsibility of the educational leader. Schools exist to provide instruction and consequently the principal's chief role is that of instructional leader. In assuring that a student reaches his full potential our goals are geared with an eye toward what the students will know or be able to demonstrate following instruction." Haynes concluded, "Individual differences must be taken into account and individual teaching and learning styles recognized." ★

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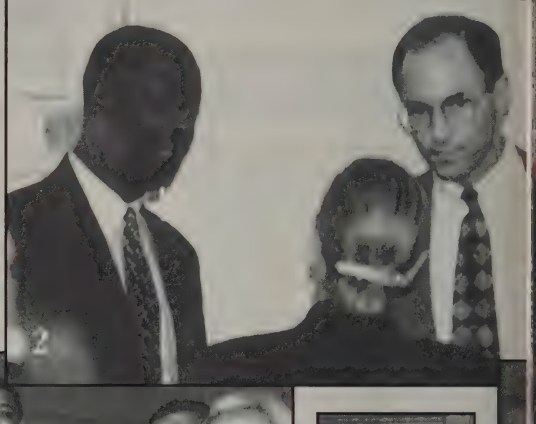

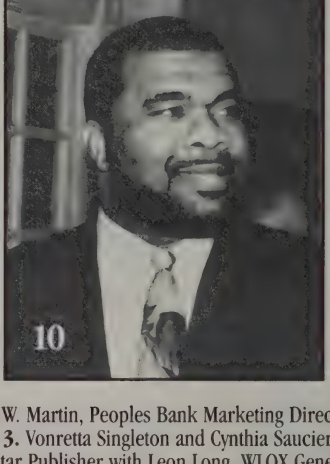

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MISSISSIPPI Star

Something To Pray About

Tomorrow IS NOT Promised

By Stacy James Mackey

"Don't worry, I'll do that tomorrow."
So often in life we procrastinate.
Unfortunately, tomorrow is not promised.

On July 23rd, I received a call at 2:00 am. It was my brother calling to inform me that Mom had died. I felt numb and entranced for over an hour. After the initial shock was over, I began to count my blessings. I had just seen Mom in June. She had come from Nevada to spend nine days in the South. At age 52, she was moderately healthy, happy and enjoying life. As I reflected on her passing, I tried to replay everything she had done that fatal day.

She arose early, worked a full day and excitedly talked with co-workers about items she would soon purchase. She stopped at a few places on the way home and later convinced my cousin to go exercising. Not exactly the day of someone who was a mere hours away from death. My cousin and Mom took separate cars to the health club so they could leave at different times. After my cousin finished her workout, she peered through the glass at Mom still dancing in her aerobics class. My cousin left for home but Mom would never see home again. She collapsed in the locker room due to a stroke and later died.

MOM DID NOT REALIZE THAT ON TUESDAY, SHE WOULD NOT WAKE UP ON WEDNESDAY.

Death, in many cases, comes unexpectedly, as it was in the case of Mom. I thought about all the things she had planned to do the next day. Mom did not realize that on Tuesday, she would not wake up on Wednesday.

So what are your plans for tomorrow? What have you put off until

tomorrow that you can do today? If you knew that your life would end at 9:00 p.m. tonight, how would you spend the day? Where would you go? Who would you call or visit? Would you be in a state of panic or one of peace? Would you cry out to God?

On the day of Jesus' crucifixion, one of the thieves on a cross next to Jesus cried out. "And Jesus said unto him, . . . *Today thou shalt be with Me in paradise.*" This passage shows us that even in the final minutes of our life, we can cry out to God for redemption. However, the question is will ***you*** be forewarned that the last minutes of your life are near?

So the next time you find yourself saying, *"Don't worry, I'll do that tomorrow,"* stop and think about it. Remember that, "Ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away" *(James 4:14 KJV)*.

I hope I gave you something to pray about. ★

Please send responses to Mississippi Star, P. O. Box 2651, Bay St. Louis, MS 39521.

ROSEMARY CHRISTA JAMES
At age 19 (1944 - 1996)

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Shani Dancers from left: Monique Hazeur, Emleigh Jacobs, Marion Labat and Chari Lee

DANCE CHILDREN DANCE,

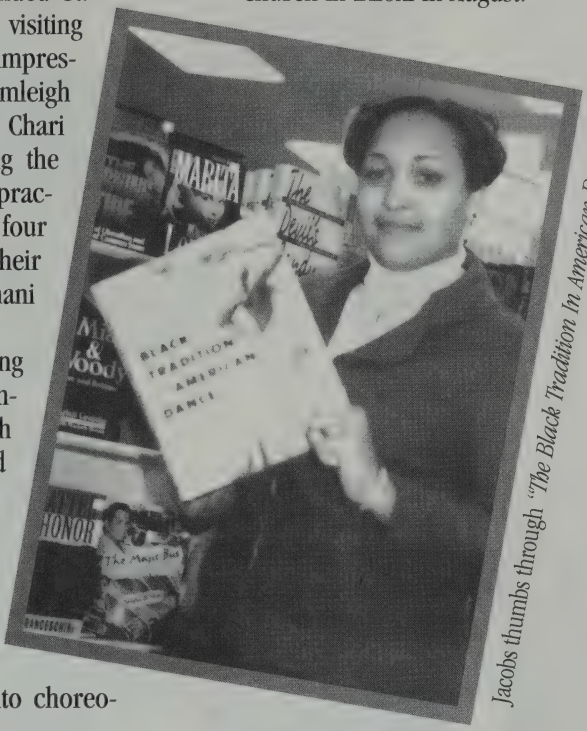
TODAY IS THE DAY OF JUBILEE, DANCE CHILDREN DANCE, THE LORD HAS COME TO SET HIS PEOPLE FREE.

By Maurice E. Singleton, Jr.

*Star Story

Approximately seven years ago, a visiting dance group from New Orleans performed at St. Rose de Lima Church in Bay St. Louis. For four sixth-grade girls who attended St. Rose de Lima Church, the visiting dancers made quite an impression. Monique Hazeur, Emleigh Jacobs, Marion Labat and Chari Lee inquired about joining the group, and after several practices in New Orleans, the four girls began practicing on their own, and thus began the Shani Dancers.

"We started out doing street dances and performing at local functions such as Mardi Gras balls and NAACP events," Hazeur explained. "In the beginning it was more about fun, and it was a lot less serious. Later on we became more serious, and we put a lot more into choreographing our routines.



Jacobs thumbs through "The Black Tradition In American Dance"

"Dancing became a way to connect with God; to use our bodies to express God's unique presence within us."

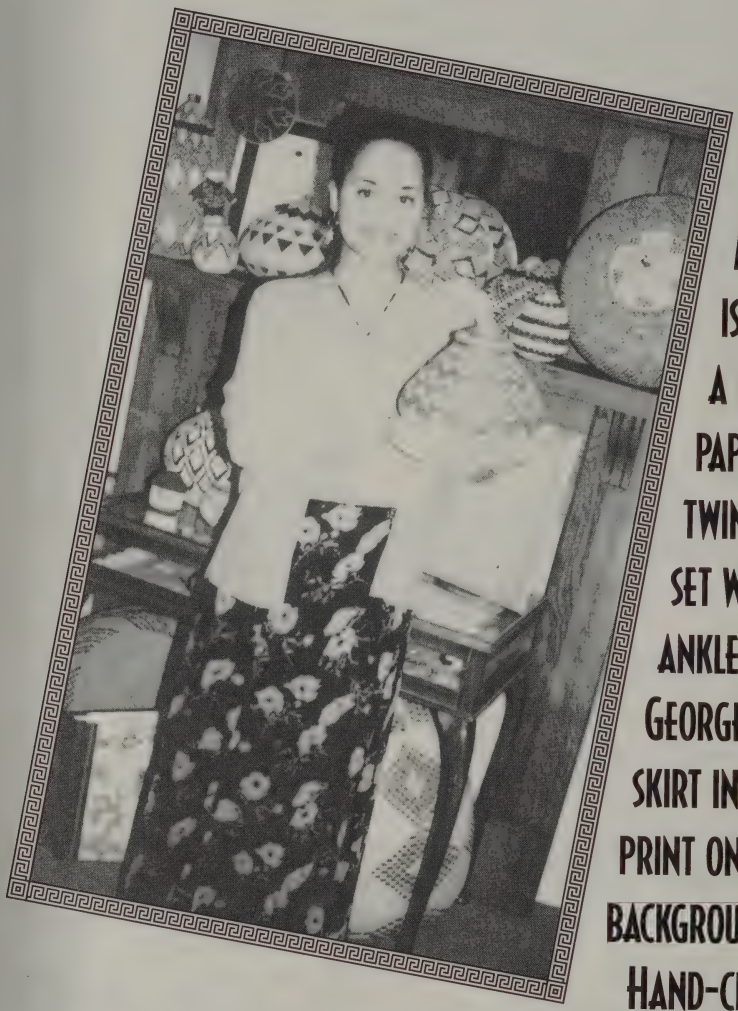
"Dancing became a way to connect with God by using our bodies to express God's unique presence within us," Hazeur explained.

The four recent high school graduates gave their final performance at Our Mother of Sorrow Catholic Church in Biloxi in August.

Today they are all in college. Marion is studying Spanish at Jackson State University; Emleigh and Chari are at Tougaloo College, majoring in Education/Counseling and nursing, respectively; and Monique is enrolled in the social work program at New York University.

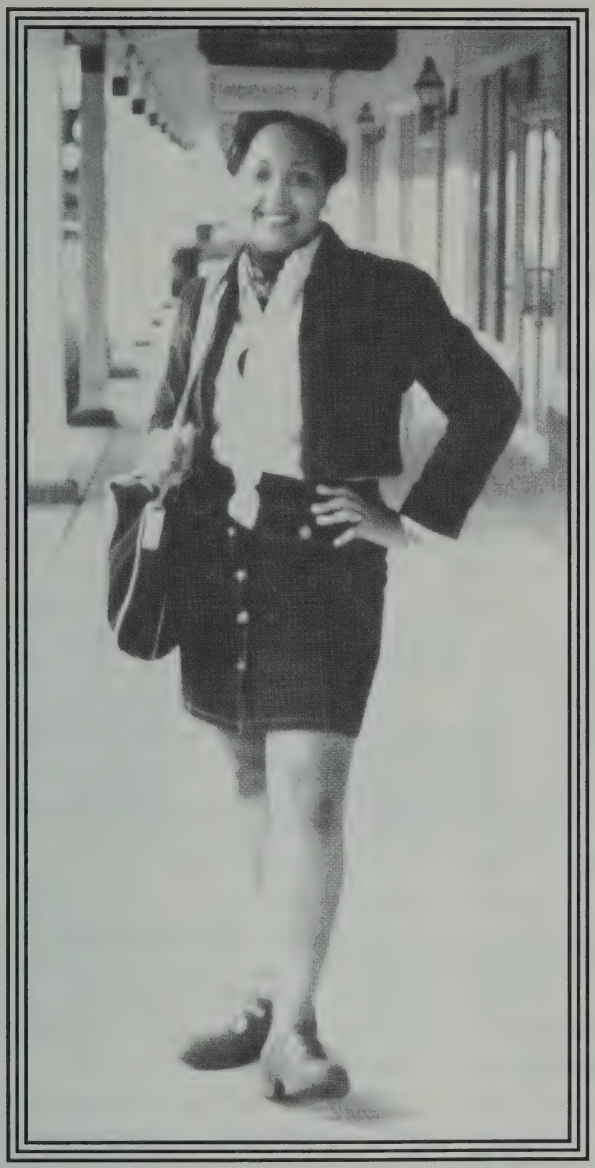
Monique says that we haven't seen the last of the Shani Dancers. The young ladies all plan to take elective dance courses and bring their new moves back when they return next summer, maybe sooner if they get home in time to get some practice in by Christmas Eve's Midnight Mass. ★

Fashion Fun...



MONIQUE IS WEARING A RAYON, PAPRIKA-RED TWIN SWEATER SET WITH AN ANKLE-LENGTH GEORGETTE SKIRT IN A POPPY PRINT ON NAVY BACKGROUND. HAND-CRAFTED NECKLACE IS MADE OF GLASS BEADS WITH AFRICAN PEWTER PENDANT. UNIQUE ZULU BASKET IS HANDWOVEN AND IMPORTED FROM KWA ZULU.

Princess Dress Shoppe, Bay St. Louis



Emleigh strikes a studious pose wearing a brown corduroy crop jacket over a cream-colored cotton, button-front Oxford, tied at the waist. She compliments the campus style with a patterned scarf. Her favorite button-front denim skirt and brown suede Mary Jane shoes enhance this fall look.

Casual Corner, Gulfport Factory Shops

PLANNING FOR CAREER SUCCESS

OUTSIDE WORD

By Dr. Frederic Dunn

Professional school admission and subsequent careers should be carefully planned. Preparing yourself for a professional career such as DENTISTRY should begin as early as ninth grade. Junior high school students should meet and work with their high school academic counselors. Each student's permanent academic transcript or folder begins in the ninth grade and follows the student throughout his life. It is important for students to note that, in addition to class grades, the transcript will contain information reflecting tardiness, absenteeism, discipline problems, and standardized test scores. DENTAL schools take all this information into consideration when evaluating an application for admission to a dental program.

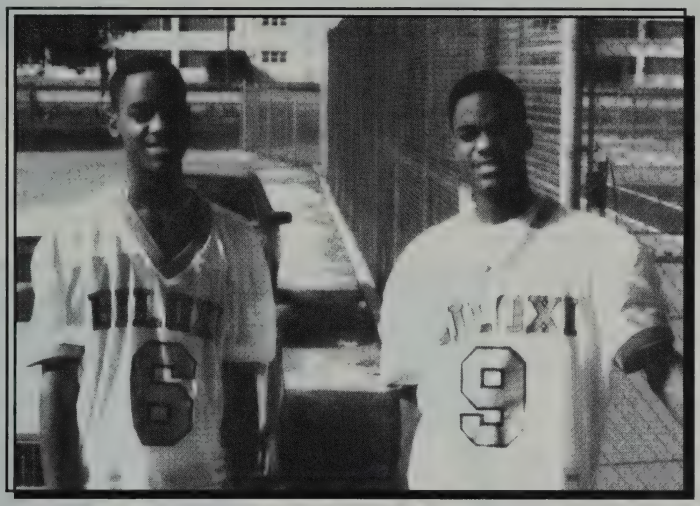
Students who aspire to a career in DENTISTRY or any other professional career should review their transcript at the end of every grading period. During my ninth grade year, I looked at the State of Mississippi's course requirements for graduation. I completed all academic requirements early by attending summer school thus graduating from high school at the end of my junior year. I did not, however, plan well my college admission. Through guidance and the grace of God, I was admitted to Tuskegee Institute. Tuskegee University has an exceptional science curriculum and prepared me for the rigors of the study of DENTISTRY at MEHARRY MEDICAL COLLEGE in Nashville, Tennessee. Like Tuskegee University, MeHarry School of Dentistry is a prestigious private historically black health care teaching institution. It may be of interest to students considering dentistry as a profession that a large percentage of BLACK DENTISTS practicing in Mississippi are graduates of MeHarry School of Dentistry.

I would advise all students to review college and professional school catalogs in their counselors' offices, your school library or the public library. Catalogs provide summary information about the colleges as well as addresses and telephone numbers. Use the catalog to prepare yourself for your anticipated course of study by paying careful attention to the course and hour requirements [CONTINUED ON PAGE 28]

SMYERS TWINS

Biloxi Indians' Dynamic Duo

by Charlotte Phinisee



Kendricks Smyers with his twin brother Kendrell

After practicing on a football field in 90-degree heat, the Smyers twins are ready to take off the pads and call it a day.

I wait outside the field house as the players shower and change into their street clothes, recalling my own high school years as I linger around the football field. Then Kendrell and Kendricks Smyers approach me, and as I stand to greet them, I look up at these two aspiring young men and immediately I search for a mark or sign to distinguish them because they appear to be identical. Then I notice the hair. Kendrell, Biloxi High's starting quarterback wears a fade-style haircut, and Kendricks, a wide-receiver wears a low, basic cut.

Kendricks and Kendrell are juniors at Biloxi High School. They are the sons of Sherrie Abston and step-father Nathaniel Abston. They were born on November 14, 1978.

A dynamic family duo at two of the highest profile positions in football, could be a distraction for other teams, but not for the Indians. According to head football coach John Williams: "They are good students and they have even held jobs while tackling the challenges of foot- [CONTINUED ON PAGE 28]

THANKS, I Needed That.

OSEOLA MCCARTY SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

By Stacy James Mackey

Scholarship recipients Carlotta Barnes and Stephanie Bullock at USM

Stephanie Bullock and Carlotta Barnes are recipients of the Oseola McCarty Scholarship. Both young ladies were raised in Hattiesburg and graduated from Hattiesburg High School.

The Oseola McCarty Scholarship was started in 1995 following a $150,000 contribution to the University of Southern Mississippi by Ms. Oseola McCarty, the 88-year-old African-American philanthropist, who accumulated the money by washing and ironing clothes.

USM President Aubrey K. Lucas, ecstatic at McCarty's generosity, immediately pursued contributions which matched her $150,000 gift.

"Ms. McCarty must be my guardian angel," said Bullock, a sophomore marketing major who is the first student to receive the scholarship. "My parents were concerned about taking on added financial obligations because my twin brother and I are in college at the same time", Bullock added.

The exposure from being the first student to receive the scholarship has also helped Bullock [CONTINUED ON PAGE 30]

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[DUNN, FROM PAGE 24]

in each major. Parents will find important information in the catalogs concerning tuition, room and board, financial aid, scholarships and other pertinent information.

Please feel free to use me as a resource for academic inquiry, particularly those of you interested in DENTISTRY.

Remember the six P's - "Prior Proper Planning Prevents Poor Performance!" GOD BLESS YOU! ★

Dr. Frederic Dunn is a dentist in private practice in Gulfport, Mississippi.

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[SMYERS, FROM PAGE 25]

ball, basketball and academics."

The twins realize that although graduation is just under two years away, it is time to plan for their futures. Kendrell plans to attend Florida State and is undecided as to what his major will be. Kendricks anticipates studying architecture, but has yet to decide on a university.

What are their greatest accomplishments to date? Sports related, of course. Kendrell's shining moment came at the heel of last football season, when as a sophomore, he led the Indian football team to seven wins. Kendricks, who appears to be more reserved, smiles shyly as he reveals his proudest moment in junior high when he scored the winning point during a basketball game against Moss Point's Coleman Junior High.

When asked who their role models are, they both answered without hesitation: "Jordan and Rice," Kendricks said. "Charlie Ward and Steve McNair", said Kendrell.

In their spare time, they "hoop" and do the "football thing" because after all, practice makes perfect. ★

GULFPORT

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News Briefs

BILOXI *Joseph Darnell Peyton, 26, and Christen Amber Stewart, 18,* were arrested on August 7, and held without bail following a 2 1/2-month investigation into the death of Stewart's infant son. The two were charged with capital murder and could face the death penalty.

GULFPORT *The Sounds of Wizards,* a community-based organization, hosted a beach party fundraiser which drew approximately 200 coast residents. Approximately $300 was raised to benefit congregations whose churches were destroyed by fire.

STARKVILLE *Marcus Bullard* will likely spend two years in prison as a result of his recent probation violation. The Mississippi State University junior basketball player was involved in a fight in Starkville on July 19, in which he possessed a pistol. In 1994 the Long Beach native received a probation sentence resulting from a drug possession charge. One of the terms of the probation was that he was not to possess a weapon. Bullard was sentenced to three years with one year suspended.

OXFORD *Louis Westerfield,* Ole Miss Law School Dean, died of an apparent heart attack at a conference in New Orleans. The university's first African-American law school dean, Westerfield held the same post at North Carolina Central and at Loyola of New Orleans. He is survived by his wife, Gelounder, and three children.

JACKSON *Governor Kirk Fordice* signed an order in August banning same-sex marriages in the state. Fordice suggested that his actions were prompted by a case before the Hawaii Supreme Court which he felt might encourage gay and lesbian couples in Mississippi to attempt to marry. Critics questioned the legality of the order.

BILOXI *New Bethel Baptist Church Freedom Foundation's* decision to terminate its pastor and several members of the deacon and trustee boards was legal according to Judge Tom Teel. The foundation's action resulted from a conflict with the pastor's decision to move from its traditional baptist form of worship to that of the Full Gospel Baptist Fellowship.

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[TERRELL, FROM PAGE 11]

What advice would Terrell give to parents? "Get involved! Make an investment just like you would when you buy a home. Spend some time at the school before there's a problem."

Terrell is Sunday School superintendent of First Missionary Baptist Church in Bay St. Louis where he also teaches and serves as a deacon.

He is active in several professional organizations and is currently a member of the Board of Directors of Mississippi Power Company. He is also an adjunct professor at William Carey College.

Terrell and his wife, Ruth, have three daughters: Tori, 9; Tyra, 12; and Tenneille, 19, a sophomore at USM. ★

[SCHOLARSHIPS, FROM PAGE 26]

to become more sociable. "The media experience has helped me with my major. I'm more outgoing now, and I've become more active on campus."

Barnes, a junior biochemistry major, is the second student to receive the scholarship. "The money really made a difference," said Barnes. "With a major as demanding as mine, my parents were concerned about me having to both work and go to school. "I go to school and work very hard," explained Barnes. "It's nice to be rewarded for my academics. I know that if I continue to work hard and stay focused, I'll succeed in whatever I decide to do."

Barnes future plans includes becoming a medical doctor or to earn a doctorate degree. ★

Calendar

SEPTEMBER 28, 29
Saint Therese Church Annual Bazaar
3521 19th St., Gulfport, MS

SEPTEMBER 30
Boys & Girls Club Talent Show Auditions
Central Junior High School Gulfport, MS
4:30 p.m.

OCTOBER 12
Oktober Fest
Krewe of Real People
Bay St. Louis, MS 8 p.m. Until
Contact: Lonnie Bradley 467-6770

OCTOBER 26
Solidarity Day
Isiah Fredericks Community Center
Gulfport, MS 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Contact: Katherine Egland 896-8818

November Opinion Poll:

Who do you support in the upcoming presidential election? Briefly share why you support this candidate.

Letters to the Publisher should be 100 words or less. **Star Calendar:** Events of interest to South Mississippians should be submitted on your organization's letterhead, specifying the date, time, place of event and a number of contact.

Submissions should be received by the twentieth day of the preceding month. Be sure to include a daytime telephone number. Mail submissions to Mississippi Star, P.O. Box 2651, Bay St. Louis, MS 39521.

Mississippi Star reserves the right to refuse or decline to publish any submission.

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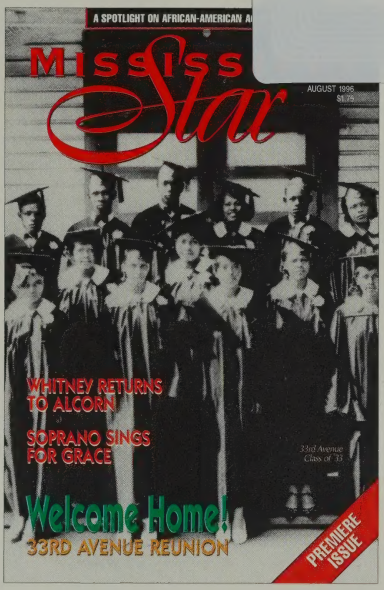
On September 1, 1996, South Mississippi and the entire Gulf Coast was hit with a glow so bright it could have only come from one source, the premiere issue of *Mississippi Star*. This publication caught marketing and media executives by surprise while taking African-Americans on an exclusive Mississippi tour which included family, health, education, business, and culture.

Avails for our next tour are filling fast, so if you don't want to be left in the dark, you had better get on board. We would be delighted to have you.

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